

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00887 271717Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----005751 271733Z /43

O 271623Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 619
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 887

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, UNSC, LE, IS, XF
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: UNIFIL: COORDINATION WITH ARAFAT

1. GIVEN MEDIA ACCOUNTS OF PROBLEMS WITH SWEDISH CONTINGENT AND FIRING FROM TYRE, I CALLED SIILASVUO AFTERNOON MARCH 27. HE SAID HE WAS ENCOUNTERING "NO SPECIAL PROBLEMS". HE VOLUNTEERED THAT HE HAD HAD PROBLEMS WITH SWEDES AND GAVE ME AN ACCOUNT SIMILAR TO ONE REPORTED JERUSALEM 885. IN REPLY TO MY QUESTION ABOUT SITUATION IN AND AROUND TYRE, SIILASVUO SAID HE HAD NO REPORTS OF ANY DIFFICULTY INVOLVING UNIFIL.

2. SIILASVUO, ERSKINE, ET AL HAVE BEEN ASKED TO COME TO A MEETING WITH GUR IN TEL AVIV AT 1730 HOURS TODAY.

3. FROM SEPARATE SOURCE, UNDERSTAND ERSKINE AND JONAH DEPARTING EARLY MARCH 28 FOR MEETING WITH ARAFAT IN BEIRUT. PRESENT PLAN IS FOR UNTSO CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER (LTC POTTER, USA) TO ACCOMPANY ERSKINE. ALTHOUGH LTC POTTER IS ASSIGNED TO UNTSO AND UNDER THE COMMAND OF ERSKINE, I WONDER WHETHER

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IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR HIM TO ACCOMPANY ERSKINE TO A MEETING WITH ARAFAT. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THIS COULD IMPAIR POTTER'S EFFECTIVE AND CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH IDF LO COL LEVINSON. IF DEPARTMENT HAS ANY VIEWS ON THIS MATTER, THEY SHOULD BE RECEIVED HERE PRIOR TO 0600 LOCAL MARCH 28.
NEWLIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, PROGRESS REPORTS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA00887
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780133-0034
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780323/aaaaasxq.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 33c012bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3197295
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON: UNIFIL: COORDINATION WITH ARAFAT
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, LE, IS, XF, UNSC, UNIFIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/33c012bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014